

Appl. No. : 09/786,100
Filed : May 21, 2001

REMARKS

With this amendment, Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to include the limitations of dependent Claims 8 and 9. Claims 8 and 9 have been canceled.

Applicant's independent Claims 1 and 4 recites a fiber cord that comprises a coating layer having a resin component selected from a group including polyamide-series thermoplastic resins, polyamide elastomer-series thermoplastic resins and polyester elastomer-series thermoplastic resins, and wherein the bending modulus of the resin component of the coating layer is 500 to 1,300 MPa. This bending modulus value is much lower than the plastics contemplated by the Mogami reference, and as was discussed in the interview with the Examiner, the PET and PBT thermoplastic polyester resins disclosed in Mogami are unsuitable for use as a fiber cord coating because of the hard and brittle nature of the PET and PBT materials relative to the claimed polyester elastomer-series resins. In the final Office Action, the Examiner asserted that optical fiber cords are provided in the breaker parts and power supply plugs contemplated by Mogami, thus providing the necessary suggestion to use the Mogami resin for an optical fiber cord coating. The applicant respectfully submits that optical fiber cords are not supplied in these devices, and that Mogami provides no suggestion to produce any plastic with a bending modulus suitable for optical fiber cords.

It is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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